

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00
SSO-00 INRE-00 IO-06 L-01 PM-03 DODE-00 SP-02
/045 W

-----171732Z 043301 /50

O R 171720Z MAY 77 ZFF 4
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8327
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 08498

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PGOV WB US UK FR GW UR
SUBJECT: FCO MEETING TO COORDINATE BRITISH BERLIN POLICY

REF: BONN 5633

1. UK AMBASSADOR WRIGHT IS SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH US
AMBASSADOR TOMORROW AT 12:30 P.M. AT FORMER'S REQUEST.
WE HAVE BEEN TOLD IN STRICT CONFIDENCE BY MEMBERS OF UK
EMBASSY THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS TO OBTAIN US
AMBASSADOR'S VIEWS ON THE WORK OF THE BONN GROUP AND TO
DISCUSS THE SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES BETWEEN US AND
UK BERLIN POLICY. THIS IS IN PREPARATION FOR A MEETING
ON MAY 23 IN LONDON, PRESUMABLY TO BE CHAIRED BY
SECRETARY OF STATE OWEN AND ATTENDED BY UK AMBASSADORS
IN BONN, BERLIN AND MOSCOW, FOR THE PURPOSE OF COORDINA-
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TING UK BERLIN POLICY BEFORE ACTIVE CONSULTATION
BEGINS ON CONTINGENCY PLANNING. THE DEPARTMENT WILL
RECALL THAT HIBBERT HAD CONSULTATIONS IN BONN ON
MARCH 28 (REFTEL) AND HIS VIEWS ARE NOT FULLY SHARED
BY SOME IN THE FCO OR UK EMBASSY BONN.

2. COMMENT: AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, DEPUTY UNDER

SECRETARY HIBBERT HAS BEEN A SPANNER IN THE WORKS OF THE BONN GROUP FOR SOME TIME. HOWEVER, THE RECENT PREPARATION OF THE ASSESSMENT FOR THE MAY QUADRI-PARTITE DINNER WAS LESS TEDIOUS THAN FOR THE DECEMBER QUADRIPARTITE DINNER AND WE UNDERSTAND FROM BONN GROUP COLLEAGUES THAT HIBBERT WAS RELATIVELY RESTRAINED AT THE LONDON MEETING. SINCE HIBBERT REPORTEDLY CONSIDERS POSSIBLE INTERFERENCE WITH ALLIED PATROLS TO BE OF FAR GREATER IMPORTANCE THAN THE MEASURES THE GDR TOOK EARLIER THIS YEAR, IT APPEARS TO US THAT THE UK POSITION ON BERLIN MAY BE CLOSER TO THE US AND FRENCH POSITION THAN IT HAS BEEN IN THE RECENT PAST. HOWEVER, WHAT SOMETIMES APPEARS TO US TO BE A UK OBSESSION WITH "PRECISION OF LANGUAGE" (UK BONN GROUP REP EYERS HAS TOLD US THAT HE WAS GIVEN A LONG LECTURE ON THIS SUBJECT BY HIBBERT BEFORE COMING TO BONN) STILL TENDS TO IMPEDE BONN GROUP WORK.

3. IF THE DEPARTMENT HAS ANY PARTICULAR POINTS WHICH IT WOULD LIKE THE AMBASSADOR TO MAKE TO AMBASSADOR WRIGHT TOMORROW (WHICH POINTS WILL PRESUMABLY BE REPEATED IN LONDON), PLEASE LET US KNOW.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, STATUS OF BERLIN, BERLIN QUADRIpartite MATTERS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, AMBASSADORS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BONN08498
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770175-0264
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770550/aaaabrgk.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b238be92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 77 BONN 5633
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2496917
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FCO MEETING TO COORDINATE BRITISH BERLIN POLICY
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, WB, US, UK, FR, GE, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b238be92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009